

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 100629Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5026

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UMSISSION GENEVA 398

S E C R E T CANBERRA 0916

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CASC, LA, AS

SUBJECT: AMCIT CHARLES M. DEAN

GENEVA FOR SIEVERTS

REF: STATE 028025

1. I RAISED WITH AUSTRALIAN DFA (COOK, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, NORTH AND SOUTH ASIA DIVISION) ON FEB 10 DEAN/SHARMAN CASE AND NEED TO KEEP PRESSURE ON PGNU. I MENTIONED SOUPHANOUVONG'S SUGGESTION TO MRS. DEAN THAT SHE REMAIN IN VIENTIANE UNTIL FEBRUARY 15, (REFTEL) AND ADDED THIS SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT THERE IS SOME DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORKS. I NOTED RENEWED CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY LAOTIAN AID-SEEKING MISSION AND SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO POSTPONE VISIT BY AID MISSION.

2. COOK REPLIED THAT DFA IS PREPARING RECOMMENDATION TO MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WILLESEE ON THE MATTER OF LAOTIAN AID-SEEKING MISSION. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT FEBRUARY WILL BE DIFFICULT MONTH IN ANY CASE, AS THREE FOREIGN MINISTERS DUE TO VISIT CANBERRA. COOK SAID HE WOULD INCLUDE IN RECOMMENDATION SUBSTANCE OF MY REPRESENTATIONS, THOUGH HE DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON WHAT HIS RECOMMENDATION

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WOULD BE. HE SAID, POLITELY BUT CLEARLY, THAT HE DID NOT

THINK IT WOULD BE PROPER, AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, TO INDICATE TO ANY DIPLOMATIC MISSION SUBSTANCE OF HIS RECOMMENDATIONS TO HIS MINISTER.

3.COMMENT: I BELIEVE OUR MESSAGE HAS COME THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR TO DFA ON IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING PRESSURE ON. COOK IS GENERALLY COOPERATIVE AND FRIENDLY, THOUGH SOMEWHAT STIFF AND QTE. CORRECT END QTE IN MANNER. I AM OPTIMISTIC THAT HE WILL RECOMMEND POSTPONEMENT OF LAOTIAN AID-SEEKING MISSION AND THAT GOA WILL ACCEPT HIS RECOMMENDATION.
HARROP

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NNN

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